

## Overview of NC Race to the Top (RttT) Initiatives

RttT Initiative	Objectives	Budget
<b>A. Standards and Assessments</b>		
Transition to new standards and assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate stakeholder support for transition</li> <li>• Ensure that all teachers understand the new standards and assessments</li> <li>• Ensure that stakeholders understand and use summative assessments effectively and appropriately</li> </ul>	See Budgets for Instructional Improvement System (section C) and Professional Development (section D)
<b>B. Data Systems to Support Instruction</b>		
State data use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that NC data are accessible to all relevant stakeholders</li> <li>• Ensure that all relevant stakeholders are prepared to make effective and appropriate use of the data (linked to section D: Professional Development)</li> <li>• Ensure that data are used to support decision-making and continuous improvement processes</li> </ul>	See Budget for Professional Development (section D)

RttT Initiative	Objectives	Budget
<b>C. Data Systems to Support Instruction</b>		
Technology infrastructures and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish PK-12 education technology “cloud” infrastructure to provide cost-effective and robust shared networking infrastructure for LEAs (NCEdCloud)</li> <li>• Provide digital tools and resources to support all RttT initiatives</li> <li>• Prepare all educators to make effective use of online resources and tools (linked to section D: Professional Development)</li> </ul>	\$34,639,376
Instructional Improvement System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the use of instructional improvement systems</li> <li>• Develop a statewide instructional improvement system to support curriculum-embedded assessments, diagnostic assessments, curriculum monitoring, and summative assessments to inform teacher planning, student placement decisions, and parental involvement</li> <li>• Provide technology infrastructure to support effective use of the instructional improvement system</li> <li>• Prepare teachers to make effective use of the instructional improvement system (linked to section D)</li> <li>• Improve student achievement outcomes, especially for low-performing students</li> </ul>	\$25,422,129

RttT Initiative	Objectives	Budget
<b>D. Great Teachers &amp; Leaders</b>		
Teacher and principal evaluation planning and processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully implement the new NC teacher and principal evaluation processes statewide, with student achievement growth data used as a significant component in the balanced evaluation</li> <li>Develop, with the engagement of all stakeholders, a state-level, equitable, reliable, and transparent system for integrating student achievement growth data into evaluations for all teachers and principals</li> </ul>	\$5,320,100
Performance incentives for lowest-achieving schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide opportunities to earn incentives based on student performance</li> <li>Transition to classroom-level incentives</li> </ul>	\$18,218,299
Regional Leadership Academies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of principals qualified to lead transformational change in low-performing schools in both rural and urban areas</li> <li>Establish regional leadership academies to prepare principals to lead in the Northeast, Sandhills, and Piedmont-Triad regions</li> </ul>	\$18,608,809

RttT Initiative	Objectives	Budget
Expand teacher recruitment and licensure programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach for America – Increase the number of TFA teachers in low-performing schools; focus recruitment on specific needs of each LEA</li> <li>• NC Teacher Corps – Using TFA-like approach, recruit and prepare NC college graduates to teach in low-performing schools that are not served by TFA</li> <li>• Induction Support Program for New Teachers – Provide comprehensive, three-year induction program for novice teachers in low-achieving schools</li> </ul>	<p>\$7,369,400</p> <p>\$5,100,000</p> <p><u>\$7,774,887</u></p> <p>\$20,244,287</p>
Strategic staffing initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support LEA development, implementation, and evaluation of programs to strengthen staffing in low-performing schools and high-needs subjects and specialties</li> <li>• Pilot/validate the effectiveness of utilizing an incentive to support teacher recruitment and retention in the lowest-achieving schools</li> </ul>	<p>\$250,000</p> <p>\$3,137,286</p>
North Carolina Virtual Public School expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the availability and use of virtual courses in mathematics and science in low-performing schools and other schools in which curriculum offerings are limited and effective teachers are unavailable locally</li> </ul>	<p>\$6,456,022</p>

RttT Initiative	Objectives	Budget
Research on effectiveness of teacher and principal preparation programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use data and lessons learned to inform decisions about program improvements, expansion and closure</li> </ul>	N/A
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create, train, and support a cadre of teacher and principal professional development leaders to establish sustainable professional development capacity statewide</li> <li>• Develop resources (for workshops, professional learning communities, virtual courses, webinars, etc.) to support effective professional activities, with the capacity to create additional resources as needed</li> <li>• Align professional development with reform initiatives in the RttT plan</li> <li>• Expand the online professional development infrastructure to provide accessible and high-quality online professional development for all educators throughout NC</li> <li>• Evaluate professional development activities to determine the impact on teaching practices and student achievement, to inform continuous improvement of professional development activities</li> <li>• Expand professional development opportunities for practicing principals and assistant principals</li> </ul>	\$33,285,045

RttT Initiative	Objectives	Budget
<b>E. Turning Around the Lowest-Achieving Schools</b>		
District and School Transformation support system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve performance of three groups: lowest 5% of conventional schools, schools with graduation rate below 60%, and districts with performance composites below 65%</li> </ul>	\$41,980,147
<b>F. STEM</b>		
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) thematic schools and network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop four coordinated STEM anchor schools, each focused on a major area relevant to NC economic development</li> <li>• Develop a network of sixteen affinity schools that will work with and learn from the four anchor schools</li> <li>• Use the anchor schools as centers for professional development, curriculum development, technology use, and innovation to impact networks of STEM schools throughout NC lowest-achieving schools (as described in Section E)</li> <li>• Develop business &amp; industry support network to expand STEM opportunities for students</li> </ul>	\$10,146,297

<b>G. Evaluation</b>		
Evaluation and policy analyses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide ongoing evaluations to inform continuous improvement of RttT initiatives</li> <li>• Provide summative analyses to inform future program, policy, and funding decisions</li> <li>• Conduct analyses of NC policies to inform the removal of policy barriers and the development of policies that support reforms</li> </ul>	\$9,449,409
<b>H. Project Coordination</b>		
RttT Program Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate daily implementation of NC RttT, including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development and modification (as needed) of a detailed scope of work and accompanying detailed budgets that comply with USED requirements</li> <li>○ Development and maintenance of detailed work plans for managing each initiative</li> <li>○ Establishment and maintenance of project administrative processes and structures, and meeting cadences required to manage and track progress against deliverables outlined in the scope of work</li> <li>○ Communication (including reporting) with various stakeholders (at State, local, and federal levels) to ensure transparency regarding NC RttT Implementation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	\$6,947,939
<b>RttT State Initiatives Total (includes \$34.6 million pooled for NCEdCloud)</b>		<b>\$234,105,145</b>